



The Meteor.

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THE ATHLETIC GAMES.

The Athletic Games were held on Monday and Tuesday last, the 23rd and 24th March. The weather was abominable, but what could we expect? It was not very fine at this time last year; it seldom is in March. Experience is said to be the best of teachers, and perhaps by next year we shall have learnt our lesson. Perhaps the only argument for the sports being held at this season is, that this is the usual time for Athletics at other places. But even if they are held at other places, we surely have now found to our cost that Rugby is too far north, and that we cannot any longer follow the example of the Universities and other Public Schools, and have our Athletics in the Lent Term. Monday morning was chill and cold, and just as the spectators had taken their places along the road to view the finish of the mile race, a heavy snowstorm began to give a coating of slime to the road. For about ten minutes it fell thickly, and a courier announced that the competitors would not start till it finished. Judging from the condition of the road, we may safely say that the time was good, although not less than in former years, when the race was run in the close. This may also refer to nearly all the sports on the first day; in one case the same competitor jumped three inches higher the second day. We shall now give a detailed account of the games; but we must first mention that to the Stewards great praise is due for their excellent management of affairs in getting all the sports finished in the prescribed time. The Stewards, we may repeat,

were—J. S. Masterman, S. P. Bucknill, W. Yardley, and J. T. Soutter. The first event was

Flat Race, 200 yards; open to all.

Winners of heats: Badger, Bucknill, Lloyd ma., and Southam.

Final heat: 1. H. W. Badger; 2. S. P. Bucknill.—Time, 21m. $3\frac{1}{4}$ s.

Badger drew away very soon and won easily. Southam was second, but not being allowed to take two prizes for the same distance, and winning the following race, chose the prize for that in preference.

Flat Race, 200 yards; under 5 ft. 7 in.

Winners of heats: Badger, Fletcher, Macmillan, Rickards ma., and Southam.

Final heat: 1. F. A. Southam; 2. K. R. Fletcher.—Time, 22 sec.

Badger, by winning the former race, was disqualified. Ingram ran second in the final, but had been beaten in his heat by Fletcher.

High Jump; under 5 ft. 2 in.

1. H. Collingridge; 2. W. Moss.—Height, 4ft. 3in.

Gordon and King jumped over 4 ft.; Sim also cleared 4 ft. 3 in., but was disqualified, being just over 5 ft. 2 in.

Mile Race.

1. S. P. Bucknill; 2. W. Welsh; 3. A. Scott; then Lloyd, Lane, Eddis, Russell.—Time, 5 min. 20 sec.

Bucknill drew away and made all the running; near the finish, however, coming down the road, Welsh put on a splendid

spurt, but did not succeed in catching him. Won by a yard, 10 yards between 2nd and 3rd. We heartily congratulate the winner on his success, as, it may be remembered, he for three successive years ran second. The time is accounted for by the state of the road.

Standing Jumping.

1. W. Yardley; 2. A. G. Botfield.—Height, 3 ft. 11 in.

Bayley, Browne, Lyon, and Mawdsley also competed. The winner jumped in much the best form.

Quarter-of-a-Mile.

Heat 1: 1. Badger; 2. Chippendall.

" 2: 1. Ingram; 2. Kough.

" 3: 1. Reynolds; 2. Lloyd.

" 4: 1. Tobin mi.; 2. Welsh.

The first heat was won easily by 15 yds., the second by 10 yds., the third equally easily; the fourth, however, was a very good race at the finish, Tobin having mistaken the course.

Final Heat: 1. S. P. Bucknill; 2. F. Tobin mi.; 3. A. S. Reynolds; E. H. Ingram, 0; H. W. Badger, 0.—Time, 63 sec.

Bucknill made tremendous pace after the first corner; Tobin, although with a good spurt, failed to reach him. Won by 10 yds.

High Jumping.

1. C. K. Francis; 2. G. Millington.—Height, 4 ft. 11 in.

The ground was in a very unsatisfactory state for jumping, so much so that the competitors could not be at all confident of reaching the jump without slipping fatally. W. Yardley and J. W. Gardner cleared 4 ft. 10 in.

Flat Race, 200 yds.; under 5 ft. 2 in.

Winners of Heats: Benham, Bulpett ma., Gordon, King.

Final Heat: 1. G. E. Benham; 2. King.—Time, 26½ sec.

Benham came to the front about half way, and maintained his lead, winning only by a yard.

Half-Mile Race.

Heat 1: 1. Botfield; 2. Chippendall.—Time, 2 min. 27 sec.

The chief feature of this race was the splendid spurt by which Botfield won a very close race, eliciting great applause.

Heat 2: 1. Isherwood; 2. Francis.—Time, 2 min. 33 sec.

Isherwood took the lead in the second lap, and finally won.

Heat 3: 1. Kough; 2. Lloyd.—Time, 2 min. 31 sec.

Won easily, the winner getting over his ground apparently without much exertion.

Heat 4: 1. Welsh; 2. Selous.—Time, 2 min. 30 sec.

Won easily, as was expected, by a good spurt, for which the winner is now deservedly famous.

Final Heat: 1. Welsh; 2. Botfield; 3. Kough. Time, 2 min. 25 sec.

All kept quite close for the first two laps, being each apparently afraid of taking the lead, when Welsh was seen at the front, closely followed by Botfield. The former, however, had more in him, and won a splendid race by a yard; Kough close up for third place.

Hurdle Race, 200 yards, over 8 Hurdles; under 5 ft. 7 in.

Winners of Heats: Badger, Field, Fletcher, Macmillan, and Southam.

All these races were closely competed, but owing to their similarity are scarcely worthy of separate accounts.

Final Heat: 1. H. W. Badger; 2. F. A. Southam.—Time, 30 sec.

This afforded great excitement, as Badger slipped at the fifth hurdle, but recovering himself very quickly, he managed just to get in front of Southam in the run home.

Broad Jumping.

1. J. W. Gardner, F. Tobin mi., equal.—Distance, 18 ft.

The tape was first laid at 18 ft., and the distance was rapidly increased, till a splendid jump by Gardner brought it to 18 ft. The other competitors failed to reach this until Tobin, amid general applause, landed on exactly the same spot. Yardley and Maitland also cleared 17 ft., both jumping in excellent form.

High Jumping; under 5 ft. 6 in.

1. H. K. Gordon; 2. G. H. Sim.—Height, 4 ft. 8 in.

The winner jumped very well, clearing two inches more than anyone else. Sim's performance was very creditable, as he was only half an inch too tall to win the 5 ft. 2 in. Jumping.

Hundred Yards.

Winners of Heats: Badger, Bucknill, Ingram, Lawrence, Lloyd, Reynolds, Southam, and Tobin mi.

Final Heat : 1. S. P. B. Bucknill ; 2. H. W. Badger.—Time, 11 sec.

Badger, from the easy manner in which he had won the 200 yds., was established favourite, but Bucknill, running very strongly throughout, won by about a foot.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.

1. H. Tubb ; 2. F. Maitland.—Distance, 97 yds. 2 ft.

There was no wind to assist the throwers, so the winning throw may be considered a very good one.

Hurdle Race ; Half-mile.

Winners of Heats : Botfield, Kough, Rowden, and Welsh.

The first and last won their heats cleverly ; Kough and Rowden won easily.

Final Heat : 1. W. Welsh ; 2. W. E. Kough ; 3. A. G. Botfield.—Time, 2 min. 45 sec.

This was a very good race, all keeping together for the first lap ; Rowden then took the lead, when he was passed successively by Botfield, Welsh, and Kough. At the last turn Welsh, who had been running with great judgment, quickened his pace, and won by 10 yards.

Putting the Stone.

1. H. Tubb ; 2. J. W. Gardner.—Distance, 31 ft. 2 in.

This was a very creditable feat. The winner exceeded the second by a foot.

Hurdle Race, 200 yards ; over 12 hurdles.

Winners of Heats : Badger, Francis, Lloyd, Penrose, and Tobin mi.

Final Heat : 1. F. Tobin mi. 2. G. H. Lloyd.—Time, 30 sec.

After the first hurdle Tobin took the lead, which he gradually increased, and won easily by four yards, although Lloyd spurred well from the path.

Old Rugbeians' Race ; Quarter-of-a-mile.

1. A. L. Oldham (Trin. Oxford) ; 2. E. Bennett.

Only seven competitors came to the scratch, probably owing to the late moment at which the prize was announced, viz.—Fitzgerald (Ball. Ox.), C. E. Ringrose (Ch. Ch.), G. T. Oldham (Oriol Ox.), A. L. Oldham (Trin. Ox.), E. Bennett, G. E. Steward (Linc. Ox.), G. Farwell (Ball. Ox.). Ringrose led at first, but on the turn home, Oldham came up, and won easily by ten yards.

Consolation Race, 200 yards ; open to all but winners of races.

1. Dugdale ; 2. Yardley.

Won by a yard and a half. A good race for second, Yardley just beating Reynolds by a foot.

THE SCHOOL STEEPLECHASES.

The School Steeplechases were run on Thursday, March 5th. The same course as last year was chosen, and both races, notwithstanding the soft state of the ground, gave very good sport. A slight drizzle gave a little annoyance to the spectators ; which was increased by some unaccountable delay in starting the races, whether from mismanagement or not, we cannot say. The first (open to all) brought about 8 to the scratch. The lot did not separate much until a little beyond the railway, when Rowden was seen going to the front, which lead he maintained nearly the whole way. About half-way, however, Welsh began to draw up, followed by Kough, Hare, and Francis. About 200 yards from the finish, Welsh had passed Rowden, the former having a longer stride, and apparently quite fresh. Kough dropped behind at the last, and the order of passing the post was—1, W. Welsh ; 2, A. W. Rowden ; 3, C. K. Francis.

The Small Steeplechase (under 5ft. 8in.) brought only 5 competitors. From the very beginning, Badger took the lead, and soon was far ahead of his men. At the last, however, by a very successful spurt and good leaping, Fletcher began to lessen the distance between them, and Badger attempting to vault the last hurdle (which gave way), lost a very close race, we might say, by a head.

Both the winners are in the Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's House.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

At a Meeting held March 7th, Mr. Wilson exhibited a section of the cuttings exposed at the Victoria Works, and explained how a record of the fossils in each stratum could be made by the Society.

After the Exhibitions, a paper of considerable research was read by J. H. Davies "On primary and secondary movements in sensitive plants."

At a Meeting held March 21st, Notes were read by the President "On Birdsnesting, its